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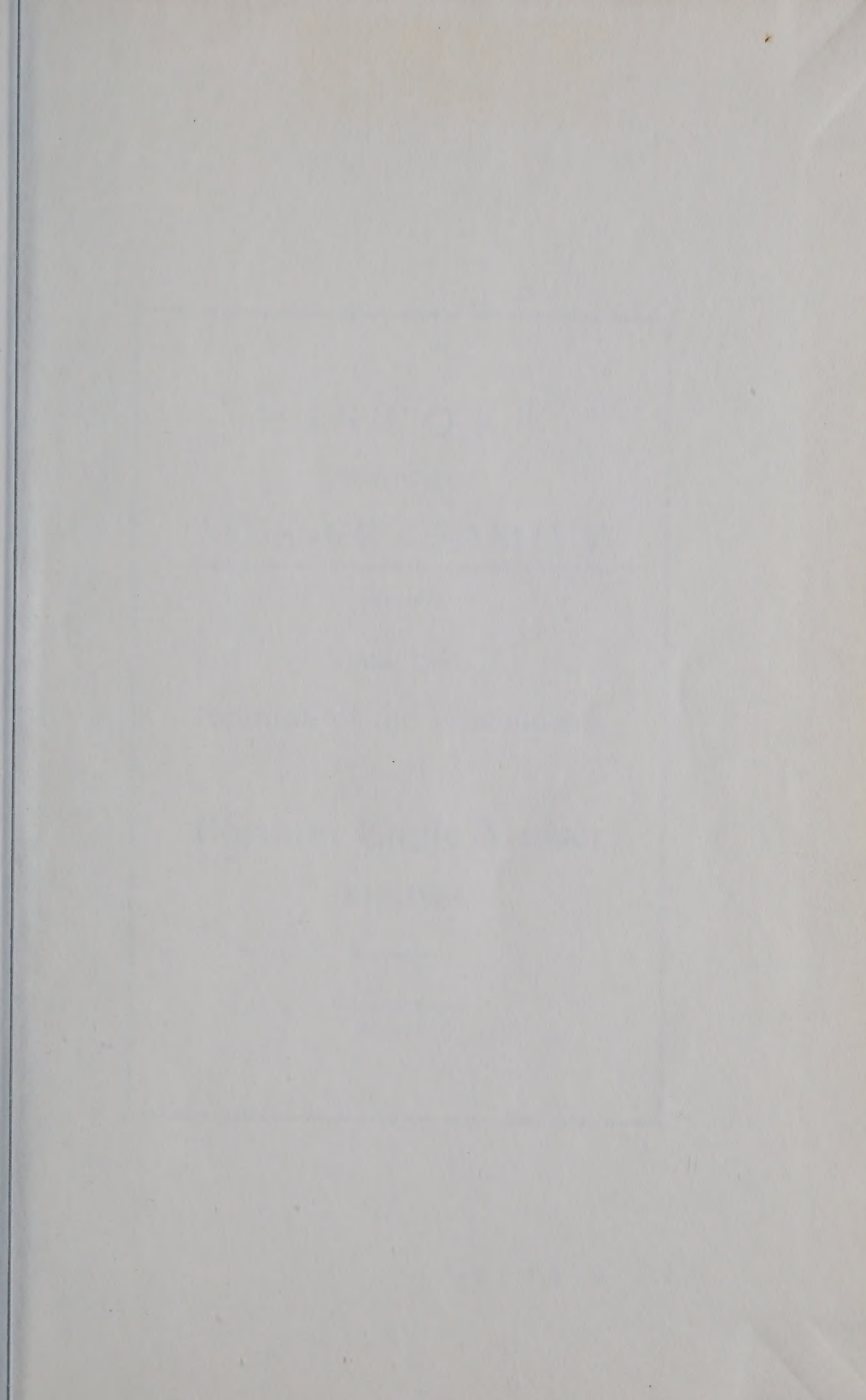
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HISTORY
OF THE
MUSSEY FAMILY

Also The
Reunion of the Descendants

—of—
Benjamin Engle Mussey

1810-1884

BULLETIN PRESS

Mt. Joy, Pa.

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PREFACE

In bringing together the material found in these pages, no effort has been made to compile an exhaustive history of the Musser family. This work is rather an account of the reunion of the descendants of Benjamin Engle Musser (1810-1884) which was held September the seventeenth, nineteen hundred and twenty-seven at the old homestead, near Florin, Pennsylvania, purchased by him in 1844 and now the home of Irwin W. Musser.

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Most of the historical data given herein was presented at the reunion. Many of the Benjamin E. Musser family were unable to attend and particularly for their benefit, this work is prepared. Furthermore, in order that these facts of our family history may be preserved for ourselves and succeeding generations, we feel it is a worthy effort that a permanent form be provided.

It is not designed to promote family pride in any degree but rather to instill in the generation now living and those to follow us, a keen heartfelt appreciation for the blessings which have come to us because of Godly, thrifty, simplicity-loving foreparents. It is also hoped that this short history may inspire us to imitate them in every virtue so that the blessings we have received will not be lost or diminished for our posterity.

We owe many thanks to Amos B. Musser and wife for the history which they collected by visiting cemeteries and searching records; in fact, the reunion and the historical facts have come to us because of their efforts. A word of thanks and commendation should also be given to Irwin Musser and family for so cordially entertaining the family at their home on the day of the reunion.

The motive for this effort is that God may be glorified and we unite our prayers to this end.

COMMITTEE

PROGRAMME

of Meeting of the

BENJAMIN E. MUSSER FAMILY

held at the

HOME OF IRWIN MUSSER

NEAR

FLORIN, PENNA.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 1927

- 9:45 Devotional.....Rev. John H. Martin
 10:00 Address of Welcome and Family
 History of Parents and Daughter,
 Mary, by Only Surviving Son.....A. B. Musser
 Of Michael.....Rev. A. Z. Hess
 Of Susan and John.....Rev. D. L. Graybill
 Of Martha.....L. F. Sheetz
 Of Benjamin.....Rev. John L. Musser
 Of Henry.....Rev. Henry O. Musser
 Of Annie.....Rev. A. M. Kuhns

LUNCHEON

- 1:30 Devotional.....Rev. D. M. Nissley
 1:45 Address.....Rev. A. M. Kuhns
 2:15 Address.....Rev. D. L. Graybill
 2:35 Short Talk.....Rev. I. W. Musser
 2:45 Closing.....Bishop L. O. Musser, Chairman

The foregoing program was interspersed by song, as those in charge deemed advisable.

DEVOTIONAL

Rev. John H. Martin

Psa. 133—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard! that went down to the skirts of his garments.

As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

Probably one reason why David wrote this psalm was because he had more than one wife and he had children born to him from these different wives. Naturally we might think there was strife and envy between some of these children. David may have written this for his children. When a family dwell together in unity and live Christian lives, they are a blessing to everybody and a fragrance like that of ointment goes out from them. We should appreciate that we were born in a family where there were Christian influences. Are we as thankful as we should be for Christian foreparents who have brought us up at the family altar and have taught us what is good and bad, right and wrong?

A name means much. It carries something with it that we cannot comprehend. If some of us should move into a community where Father Musser had been known, and it would be learned that we are related to him, the community would form an opinion of us according to the manner of life he lived. As the homes are Christian or non-Christian, so is the community. The Christian family is a blessing and an honor to a community. We should appreciate the Christian influence which has been thrown around us.

Psa. 127—"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

If Benjamin E. Musser could be here today and see the number who are Christians, we believe he would be pleased that so many of his family follow the Lord. If he had not been a Christian, how many would be Christian people here today? The Lord surely helped to build his house and to preserve his family. A family that has boys and girls, is a strength to the community. A country, like France, which has very few children, presents a picture of weakness of fortification for the future.

May this meeting create in our hearts a deep appreciation for the privilege of being born in a Christian family with Christian influences thrown about us.



OPENING PRAYER

By Brother Martin Followed

A. B. Musser, the only surviving son of Benjamin E. Musser, then gave an address of welcome, as follows:

It affords me great pleasure to meet with my nephews and nieces this morning. I was looking forward to a meeting of this kind for some time, thinking we could have a nice time together on the old homestead where I was born over 79 years ago. We welcome you all, and should there be those here who are not connected with the Musser Family, you are equally as welcome. And we hope that those of you who have not met before, may this day become acquainted.

I was agreeably surprised as I looked over the audience, for by appearance it seems that nearly all are children of God, which is of more value to me than all the rest.

I notice the families are all represented here today with the exception of Susan's family. However, one of her sons, namely Benjamin M. Musser sent notice by letter that he would have been here, but because of the short notice and the distance to come, also some business engagements, he was deprived of coming. I was wishing that all my nephews and nieces could be here and enjoy the day with us. My mind went to eternity this morning wishing father and mother could be here, also my brothers and sisters to enjoy the day with us and we with them.

Now I would like to meet as many of my nephews and nieces as possible but since I cannot meet you as my sight is failing I would be well pleased if you would come to me. Now Irwin W. Musser has given us the privilege of meeting here and I feel thankful for this opportunity. Let us all feel ourselves at home and enjoy the day together in a Christian way. May the Blessing of God be with you all, and may you all arrive home safely.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME "MUSSER"

As to the origin of the name "Musser," it may be of interest to know the following: A native of Switzerland has told us that in the old German and Swiss languages, the word "Moos" means a meadow. The heads of families were often named according to their location or occupation. So the man who lived at a meadow was given the name "Mooser." Other forms came from this, such as Moser, Moeser, Mosser and Musser.

Early History

Of the Musser family to which Benjamin E. Musser belongs, the earliest member of which we have certain record is Heinrich Musser (1776-1822) who was the father of Benjamin E. Musser. We have the governmental record of the Musser immigrants from Germany and Switzerland and the time of their arrival at Philadelphia as follows:

Jost Moser	September 30, 1727
Hans Moser	September 30, 1727
Christian Moser	September 30, 1727
Martin Moeser	September 11, 1728
Hans Adam Moeser	September 11, 1728
George Moser	Age 48
Mich Moscher	Age 38
Tobias Mosser	Age 30
Deonart Moser	
Paulus Moser	
Eve Mosser	Age 40
Eve Barber Mosser	Age 56
Christiana Mosser	Age 24
Susannah Barber Mosser	Age 40
Eve Madelan Mosser	Age 52
Marrea Lagener Mosser	Age 32
Marrea Mirene Mosser	Age 38
Hanna Margrett Mosser	Age 12
Anna Maria Mosser	Age 8
Anna Margreatta Mosser	Age 11
Basion Mosser	Age 6
Simon Mosser	Age 11
Hans Jerrick Mosser	Age 8

September 23, 1732—Ship Adventurer, Captain Robert Carson from Rotterdam.

Paul MosserSeptember 11, 1738
 Christian MosserDecember 22, 1744
 Peter MosserOctober 9, 1747
 John Paulus MieserOctober 9, 1747
 Ludwig MoserSeptember 25, 1748
 Christian MosserAugust 15, 1750
 Johan Phillip MosserSeptember 29, 1750
 Hans Michael MoserOctober 16, 1751

We also have these statistics:

TAXPAYERS

In 1771 Leacock Township—Henry Musser 122 acres.

In 1771 Lampeter Township—Peter Musser 130 acres;
 Martin Musser 132 acres.

In 1771 Bracknock Township—Henry Musser 150 acres.

In 1772 same.

In 1773 same.

February 26, 1745 John Musser took up 30 acres of land.

November 1, 1770 John Musser took up 25 acres of land.

April 18, 1772 John Musser took up 100 acres of land.

October 4, 1787 John Musser took up 100 acres of land.

The following were heads of families in 1790 when the first census of the United States was taken. The first number is males over 16 years, the second number is males under 16 years and the third number is females in the family.

	Males over 16 yrs.	Males under 16 yrs.	Females
In Manor Township			
Benjamin Musser	2	5	4
In Strasburg Township			
Christ Musser	2	2	4
In Donegal Township			
John Musser	1	2	3
In Conestoga Township			
Daniel Musser	1	1	3
John Musser	1	1	4

In Hempfield Township

John Musser	1	1	1
Henry Musser	1	1	3

In Lancaster Borough

Michael Musser	6	2	6
George Musser	7	5	7
John Musser	1	2	8
Henry Musser	2	3	3

In Mount Joy Township

Musser (widow) ...	0	0	2
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Heinrich Musser, who was born in 1776, was undoubtedly one of the males listed in this last record, classed under sixteen years of age, because his age in 1790 was fourteen years. Of which one of the eleven possible families he was a member is yet to be proven.

A possible lineage would be Hans Jacob Mosser, came to America 1754 (about thirty years of age?)

John Musser (1755—1815?)

Heinrich Musser (1776—1822)

Benjamin E. Musser (1810—1884)

Earlier than Heinrich Musser our connections are not certain but we submit this until some one shall furnish us with more certain history. We have a number of reasons for considering these, the father and grandfather of Heinrich Musser. We are told that the Heinrich Musser family were natives of Donegal Township. In 1790, according to the census, there was only one Musser family in Donegal Township and that was the family of John Musser, which was composed of one man over sixteen years of age, two boys under sixteen years of age and three females. Heinrich having been fourteen years old at the time of this census and a native of Donegal Township was evidently one of the sons of John Musser. According to the probable age of John Musser as given, he would have been thirty-five years old in 1790, making it entirely fitting that he should be the father of four children under sixteen years of age.

The fact that Maria Engle, second wife of Heinrich Musser, was a granddaughter of Ulrich Engle, Sr., who received a patent of land and made his home at Wild Cat, west of Marietta, would indicate that Heinrich lived somewhere not far distant at the time of his marriage. All the other town-

ships named as the home of Musser families in 1790, except Donegal, were rather distant from Marietta; this again leads us to believe that Heinrich was a son of John Musser, of Donegal Township.

In the next step which names Hans Jacob Mosser as the father of John Musser, there is more speculation. The ages, however, would correspond. We know that the Ulrich Engle referred to above and Hans Jacob Mosser came to America from Switzerland on the same ship Phoenix, landing at Philadelphia in October, 1754. It is possible that the two men were friends and settled in nearby sections. A native of Switzerland has told us that there are still many Mosser's and Engle's living in the canton of Basil and in the vicinity of Lake Bodensee, a lake lying between Germany and Switzerland. It is thought that many of the Mussers went from Germany to Switzerland and later came to America because of religious oppression.



HEINRICH MUSSER

Father of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Heinrich Musser	4- 4-1776	9-20-1797	10-	3-1822	
Elizabeth Seitz Musser	11- 3-1776	9-20-1797	1-	3-1803	
1 Henry S. Musser	6-17-1799	11-	3-1820		
Elizabeth Gish	4-18-1802	11-	3-1820		
1-1 John G. Musser	10-30-1830	12-12-1856			
Martha Berg	12-12-1856				
Two Sons					
1-2 Daughters					
2 Johan S. Musser	3 yrs. old				
Heinrich Musser	4- 4-1776	12-10-1805	10-	3-1822	
Martha Engle	6- 6-1783	12-10-1805	10-	20-1842	
3 Susanna Musser Gish	5-1 Mary Musser Flory				
John Gish	5-2 Michael B. Musser				
3-1 Henry M. Gish	5-3 Susan Musser Musser				
3-2 Elizabeth Gish Engle	5-4 John B. Musser.				
3-3 Mary Gish Lenhert	5-5 Martha Musser Heisey				
3-4 Benj. M. Gish	5-6 Benj. B. Musser				
3-5 Martha Gish Hamaker	5-7 Henry B. Musser.				
3-6 Annie Gish Engle	5-8 Lizzie B. Musser				
3-7 Susan Gish Engle	5-9 Anna Musser Kuhns				
3-8 Fanny M. Gish	5-10 Jacob B. Musser				
	5-11 Amos B. Musser				
4 Martha Musser Hoffman	6 Anna Musser Engle				
Michael Hoffman	Jacob M. Engle				
4-1 Benj. M. Hoffman	6-1 Mary M. Engle				
4-2 Anna Hoffman Engle	6-2 John Engle				
4-3 Michael M. Hoffman	6-3 Benj. Engle				
4-4 Mary Hoffman Engle	6-4 Susanna Engle				
4-5 Elizabeth Hoffman Nissley	6-5 Henry Engle				
4-6 Jacob M. Hoffman	6-6 Annie Engle Wolgemuth				
4-7 Henry Hoffman	6-7 Fannie Engle Hess Wolgemuth				
4-8 John Hoffman	6-8 Magdalene M. Engle				
5 Benj. E. Musser	6-9 Eli M. Engle				
Elizabeth Brenner					

The descendants of John G. Musser and Martha Berg Musser moved to Virginia, where some of them are still living. Of the children of Susanna Musser Gish and John Gish there is one still living, Susan Gish Engle, of Abilene, Kansas. There is also one survivor of the children of Martha Musser and Michael Hoffman, namely John Hoffman, ninety years of age, who resides in Snyder County, Pennsylvania. Another of the children of this family, Mary Hoffman Engle, passed to rest in Hallstead, New York in 1928, at the age of ninety-eight years. Rev. Eli M. Engle, of Mount Joy, Pa., is the only one of the children of Anna Musser and Jacob Engle, who is still living.

After the death of Heinrich Musser in 1822, his widow, Martha Engle Musser, was married to Jacob Hershey on November 23, 1824. She passed to rest in 1842 and was buried in the Cross Roads cemetery.

BENJAMIN E. MUSSER

Son of Heinrich Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Benjamin E. Musser.....	8-15-1810	18	B. in C.	1828	1884
Elizabeth Brenner, his wife	9-20-1811	17	B. in C.	1828	1880
and children					
Mary B. Musser Flory.....	10-18-1829	Yg.	B. in C.	O. O.	1913
Michael B. Musser.....	8-15-1831	22	B. in C.	1854	1924
Susan B. Musser Musser.....	6- 2-1833	22	B. in C.	....	1876
John B. Musser.....	9-12-1834	...	B. in C.	1854	1879
Martha B. Musser Heisey.....	9-29-1836	12	B. in C.	1867	1907
Benjamin B. Musser.....	8-28-1838	14	B. in C.	1860	1905
Henry B. Musser.....	8-28-1840	12	B. in C.	1862	1909
Lizzie B. Musser.....	12- 3-1842	.....	.....	.....	1849
Anna B. Musser Kuhns.....	4-24-1845	...	B. in C.	1864	1921
Jacob B. Musser.....	1847	.....	.....	.....	1847
Amos B. Musser.....	6-22-1848	23	B. in C.	1871	....

Benjamin E. Musser, son of Heinrich Musser, was born August 15, 1810. While he was but a boy his father died and later his mother was remarried to Jacob Hershey. There were Hershey children and Musser children and they grew up together. When Benjamin was eighteen years old father Hershey advised him to get a life companion and selected

Elizabeth Brenner for him. They were married Dec. 7, 1828 and soon afterward both were converted and united with the Brethren in Christ Church.

Benjamin Musser bought land near Stackstown which is now the Miller farm. The land was then covered with timber and they cut down some of it to build a house and barn. Here Benjamin and his wife, Elizabeth began to keep house in 1829. In 1844 they bought the Irwin W. Musser farm near Florin and moved to this place. After Michael B. Musser, their oldest son, was married, the old homestead was given to him and the parents moved with their family to the B. O. Musser farm in 1855. In 1864 they discontinued farming and moved to a house they had built across the road from the old homestead. When their son, Michael retired from farming, this house was occupied by him and they bought a house in Florin and moved there. Several years later Elizabeth passed to her reward, May 30, 1880 at the age of sixty-eight years. Several years prior to her death she had a stroke, after which she was nearly helpless part of the time. She had always been a faithful member of the Brethren in Christ Church. After her death, father Benjamin Musser no longer continued his home but lived with his children.

Father Benjamin E. Musser was charitably inclined. He helped poor people to homes of their own by buying the house and giving them the opportunity to pay for it as they were able. On one occasion he and Isaac Hershey built a house for a poor family and afterwards one of the daughters became wealthy. She remembered the help her parents had received and wished to do something helpful for the church with which these brethren were associated. She became acquainted with some of their friends at the Messiah Home in Harrisburg and gave financial aid to that institution. She had a desire to provide care for orphan children and promised to pay for an Orphanage building. By the consent of the church, the orphanage was built on the Messiah Home grounds and was paid by Barbara Kern according to her promise. This was the first building erected for the orphanage work which is now being conducted at the Messiah Orphanage at Florin.

Father Benjamin Musser was much pleased with the land in Kansas and wished that all his children would live there.

In September, 1844 he took a trip to that state, having made arrangements to purchase a section of land for his two sons, Benjamin and Amos. The party going west was composed of Jacob Flory, Daniel Heisey, Michael and Henry Musser and Benjamin E. Musser. John B. Musser and his family already lived in Kansas. He reached Kansas and bought a section of land for his sons and had the proper papers drawn up.

On the following day as they were viewing the country they drove through a ravine and the back seat on which Father Musser was riding broke and he and his son, Michael, fell backwards on the ground. Michael was not injured but on being asked whether he was hurt, father replied, "Yes, and I think I must die." Those present at the time of the accident were his two sons, Michael and Henry, and his two sons-in-law, Jacob Flory and Daniel Heisey, and two grandsons, Christ O. and Hezekiah Musser. A telegram was sent to the sons, Benjamin and Amos, that father was hurt and probably would die. A few days after the telegram was received, a letter arrived with the message that he was well and had bought the section of land for them and that they needed to make no arrangements for the payment until he came home.

The accident proved fatal and Benjamin E. Musser died September 25, 1884 at Herrington, Kansas. He lived a Christian life until death, having spent more than fifty years in the Lord's service. His body was brought to Pennsylvania and buried beside that of his wife, Elizabeth Brenner Musser, in the Cross Roads cemetery.

MARY B. MUSSER FLORY

Daughter of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Mary B. Musser Flory....	3-20-1823	Yg.	O. O. B. in C.	....	....
Jacob H. Flory.....	3-20-1823	Yg.	O. O. B. in C.	....	1911
Their children					
1 John M. Flory.....	6-20-1851	.....	.....	.....	.....
2 Elizabeth M. Flory.....	7-21-1852	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 Jacob M. Flory.....	12-16-1854	.....	.....	.....	1912

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
4 Anna M. Flory.....	10- 5-1857	56	C. in B.	1888	....
5 Amanda M. Flory.....	12-26-1862	51	Refor'd	1913	....
6 Milton M. Flory.....	10-24-1864	Believer	....	....	....
1 John M. Flory.....	6-20-1851	.....	....	....	....
Sarah Resee, his wife.....	.....	.....	....	....	1920
1-1 Laura Flory Beaumont					
Earnest Beaumont					
1-2 Wilson Flory					
Frances Sherlock					
William E. Flory					
2 Elizabeth M. Flory Bowers....	7-21-1852	.....	....	....	....
Samuel Bowers					
2-1 Jacob Bowers					
Blanche Brower Bowers					
2-2 Mary Bowers Duggan.....	9-28-1889	21	Baptist	....	....
Zellner Green Duggan.....	10-31-1880	16	Baptist	....	....
3 Jacob M. Flory.....	12-16-1854	.....	....	....	1913
Clemmie Bauchman					
3-1 Jacob M. Flory.....	12-16-1854	.....	....	....	1913
Leah Stoner					
4-1 Arthur Flory					
Dora Lower					
2 daughters					
3-2 Florence Flory					
Walter Bader					
Betty Marguerite Bader.....	1916	.....	....	....	....
4 Anna M. Flory Bowser.....	10- 5-1857	C. of B.	1888	....	....
Isaac Bowser	11-23-1841	Believer	1888	1924	....
5 Amanda M. Flory Huber.....	12-26-1862	Refor'd	1913	....	....
William P. Huber.....	1-12-1867	Yg Refor'd	....	1913	....
6 Milton M. Flory.....	10-24-1864	.....	....	....	....
Hettie Sims	12-29-1888	Methodist	....	....	....
6-1 Irene Ruth Flory.....	4-29-1908	Methodist	....	....	....

Jacob H. Flory and his wife, Mary B. Musser, were converted when young and united with the Old Order of the Brethren in Christ Church. They served as deacon and deaconess and were faithful to their calling until death.

The descendants of John M. Flory and Jacob M. Flory live in the vicinity of Canton, Ohio. Mary Bowers Duggan, daughter of Elizabeth M. Flory Bowers, was born in Canton, Ohio and was converted and united with the First Baptist Church at Cochran, Georgia. Her husband, Zellner Green Duggan, was born at Warthen, Georgia. He was converted at the age of sixteen years and united with the First Baptist Church. They live in Taledaga, Alabama.

Anna Flory Bower resides in New Freedom, York County, Pennsylvania, where her husband died in 1924. Amanda Flory, the youngest daughter, was born in York County and when a child moved with her parents to Canton, Ohio. She remained with them until both had passed to rest, mother Flory, who passed away on June 24, 1913, being the last. She remained at the home until October 14, 1913 when she was united in marriage with William P. Huber, a native of Venango County, Pennsylvania. They reside near Louisville, Ohio. The only descendant of Milton Flory is a daughter, Ruth, who is engaged in teaching school.

MICHAEL B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Michael B. Musser.....	8-15-1831	22	B. in C.	1854	1924
Catherine Newcomer Musser....	11- 9-1832	11	B. in C.	1854	1818
Their Children					
1 Elizabeth M. Musser.....	10-15-1856	16	B. in C.	1879	....
2 Eli M. Musser.....	7-27-1859	16	B. in C.	1880	1896
3 Annie M. Musser.....	9-11-1863	12	B. in C.	1882	1908
4 Martha M. Musser.....	12-28-1867	17	B. in C.	1888	....
1 Elizabeth M. Musser Hess....	10-15-1856	16	B. in C.	1879	....
Abraham Z. Hess.....	6- 4-1859	18	B. in C.	1879	....
1-1 Anna M. Hess Zercher.....	10-15-1881	13	B. in C.	1904	....
Andrew H. Zercher.....	11- 2-1879	25	B. in C.	1904	....
Rhoda E. Zercher.....	9-15-1906	16	B. in C.	....	....
Anna Ruth Zercher.....	7- 2-1911	14	B. in C.	....	....
Jacob Earl Zercher.....	7-18-1916	.....	.....	.....	.....
Verna Mae Zercher.....	12- 8-1918	.....	.....	.....	1918
Ray Merlin Zercher.....	9-26-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erla Jean Zercher.....	3-11-1924	.....	.....	.....	.....
1-2 Martha M. Hess.....	7-19-1883	.....	.....	.....	1883
1-3 Abram M. Hess.....	1- 4-1890	14	B. in C.	1913	....
Esther E. Hess.....	1-20-1890	.....	.....	1913	....
Lester Ralph Hess.....	5-17-1916	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Arthur Hess.....	2-14-1918	.....	.....	.....	1918
Kenneth Earl Hess.....	7-29-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Abram Clair Hess.....	10-16-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
1-4 Mary M. Hess.....	3- 4-1892	12	B. in C.	....	....
1-5 Katie M. Hess Heisey.....	5- 2-1893	11	B. in C.	1917	....
Paul W. Heisey.....	4- 6-1897	14	B. in C.	1917	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Mary E. Heisey.....	7- 2-1919	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ethel C. Heisey.....	10-23-1920	.....	.....	.....	.....
James W. Heisey.....	9-10-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
1-6 Henry M. Hess.....	9-22-1895	14 B. in C.	1916	.....	.....
Lottie Hersh Hess.....	2-26-1896	...B. in C.	1916	.....	.....
Paul Z. Hess.....	4-18-1919	.....	.....	.....	.....
Faye E. Hess.....	8-18-1922	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Arlene Hess.....	1-20-1925	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rhoda Mae Hess.....	10-30-1927	.....	.....	.....	.....
1-7 Barbara M. Hess Brubaker.	2-11-1897	13 B. in C.	1918	.....	.....
Allen G. Brubaker.....	7- 8-1898	19 B. in C.	1918	.....	.....
Abram H. Brubaker.....	2-22-1924	.....	.....	.....	.....
Allen G. Brubaker.....	8-27-1927	.....	.....	.....	.....
1-8 Benjamin M. Hess.....	10-11-1900	B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
2 Eli M. Musser.....	7-27-1859	16 B. is C.	1880	1896	.....
Mary N. Wolgemuth.....	7-29-1858	10 B. in C.	1880	.....	.....
Their Children					
2-1 Irwin W. Musser.....	9- 9-1881	12 B. in C.	1903	.....	.....
Naomi H. Zercher Musser...	9-23-1882	16 B. in C.	1903	.....	.....
Elias Z. Musser.....	2- 8-1905	21 B. in C.	1927	.....	.....
Viola S. Reed, his wife.....	1906	20 B. in C.	1927	.....	.....
Clarence Z. Musser.....	5-29-1907	B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Mary Z. Musser.....	5-30-1916	11 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
J. Earl Musser.....	11-20-1919	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ruth Naomi Musser.....	11- 1-1924	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-2 Anna W. Musser Engle....	1- 9-1884	10 B. in C.	1904	1909	.....
J. Avery Engle.....	4- 4-1880	22 B. in C.	1920	.....	.....
Eli M. Engle.....	1-24-1906	8 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Paul M. Engle.....	11- 4-1907	10 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Irwin M. Engle.....	3- 5-1909	9 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
J. Ayerv Engle.....	4- 4-1880	22 B. in C.	1920	.....	.....
Adda Sultzbach Engle.....	9-21-1889	19 B. in C.	1920	.....	.....
Alvin S. Engle.....	7-28-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lois S. Engle.....	8- 4-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-3 Katie W. Musser Martin...	1-17-1887	11 B. in C.	1907	.....	.....
Abram H. Martin.....	6-30-1884	16 B. in C.	1907	.....	.....
Roy W. Martin.....	2-22-1911	12 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Mary M. Martin.....	6- 6-1913	8 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
John M. Martin.....	8- 8-1916	10 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Sarah M. Martin.....	6- 4-1920	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vernon M. Martin.....	2- 2-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nathan E. Martin.....	12-19-1924	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-4 Mary W. Musser Forry....	5-15-1891	14 B. in C.	1914	.....	.....
Benjamin H. Forry.....	1- 2-1892	21 B. in C.	1914	.....	.....
John M. Forry.....	10-12-1917	.....	.....	.....	.....
Irwin M. Forry.....	2-28-1919	8 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Miriam M. Forry.....	10-28-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....

	Bors	Age	Conv.	Marriage	Died
Henry M. Forry.....	5- 8-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
Benjamin M. Forry.....	3-13-1927	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-5 Barbara W. Musser Martin...	5-13-1893	17 B. in C.	1919	.....	.....
John H. Martin.....	5- 8-1882	22 B. in C.	1919	.....	.....
Ruth Hoffman Martin.....	9-12-1918	.....	.....	.....	.....
Esther M. Martin.....	11-22-1920	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Robert Martin.....	12- 6-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clarence James Martin.....	10-24-1926	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-6 Martha W. Musser Stern...	2-19-1897	14 B. in C.	1920	.....	.....
Earl K. Stern.....	9-18-1897	13 B. in C.	1920	.....	.....
Aaron Hoffman Stern.....	6-30-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ira Musser Stern.....	6-17-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary C. Stern.....	9- 2-1926	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 Annie M. Musser Nissley....	9-11-1863	12 B. in C.	1882	1908	.....
Benjamin H. Nissley.....	4- 7-1861	15 B. in C.	1882	.....	.....
3-1 David M. Nissley.....	3-21-1888	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Alice Konode Nissley....	2-15-1885	20 B. in C.	1910	.....	.....
Marcus K. Nissley.....	1-26-1911	11 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Naomi K. Nissley.....	1- 5-1912	9 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Ruth K. Nissley, (twin).....	1- 5-1912	9 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Paul K. Nissley.....	6- 1-1913	10 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Benjamin K. Nissley.....	9-18-1914	8 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Nathan K. Nissley.....	10- 3-1917	.....	.....	.....	.....
Naaman K. Nissley.....	10- 3-1917	.....	.....	.....	1919
Mary K. Nissley.....	10- 1-1920	.....	.....	.....	.....
3-2 Jonas M. Nissley.....	9-20-1890	.....	.....	.....	1890
3-3 Amanda M. Nissley.....	12-19-1893	.....	.....	.....	1893
3-4 Norman M. Nissley.....	4-26-1896	13 B. in C.	1918	.....	.....
Gertrude Shearer Nissley....	6-21-1893	...B. in C.	1918	.....	.....
3 Benjamin H. Nissley.....	4- 7-1861	15 B. in C.	1910	.....	.....
Mary N. Musser Nissley.....	7 29-1858	.....	.....	.....	1910
4 Martha M. Musser Wolgemuth	12-28-1867	.....	.....	.....	1888
Hiram E. Wolgemuth.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1888
4-1 Michael M. Wolgemuth....	1-15-1890	19 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
4-2 Christian M. Wolgemuth...	12-17-1890	19 B. in C.	1916	.....	.....
Ada H. Fry Wolgemuth.....	5 9-1891	24 B. in C.	1916	.....	.....
Erma F. Wolgemuth.....	10- 8-1917	9 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Christian A. Wolgemuth.....	2-12-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hiriam Ivan Wolgemuth.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4-3 Daniel M. Wolgemuth.....	4-26-1895	18 B. in C.	1917	.....	.....
Ella N. Heisey Wolgemuth...	3-15-1895	17 B. in C.	1917	.....	.....
4-4 Irvin M. Wolgemuth.....	10-13-1895	18 B. in C.	1917	.....	.....
Anna M. Hostet. Wolgemuth.	5-26-1898	13 B. in C.	1917	.....	.....
Lester H. Wolgemuth.....	1-22-1920	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ruth Evelyn Wolgemuth.....	8-18-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Alma May Wolgemuth.....	11- 4-1923	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anna Martha Wolgemuth....	5-26-1926	.....	.....	.....	.....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
4-5 Hiram M. Wolgemuth.....	7-19-1898	14	B. in C.	....	....
4-6 Eli M. Wolgemuth.....	11-14-1901	11	B. in C.	....	....
4-7 Joseph M. Wolgemuth.....	10-18-1903	15	B. in C.	1926	....
Edna H. Miller Wolgemuth..	7- 6-1906	11	B. in C.	1926	....
Wilbur M. Wolgemuth.....	.....	1-28-1927	....	....	....
4-8 Abner M. Wolgemuth.....	3-19-1906	16	B. in C.	....	....
4-9 Martha Cathari. Wolgemuth	6-15-1908	13	B. in C.	....	....
4-10 Mary Elizabeth Wolgemuth	4-18-1910	11	B. in C.	....	....
4-11 J. Musser Wolgemuth.....	9-17-1911	.....	....	....	....

Michael B. Musser was born August 15, 1831 on the Miller farm in Conoy Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. At the age of twelve years he came to the Musser homestead which is now in the possession of Irwin W. Musser. After Michael completed his common school work, he started attending the academy at Mount Joy, intending to study medicine but his brother, John, was injured about the same time and that made it necessary for Michael to help with the work on the farm. This injury resulted in John's conversion and, in turn, Michael was also converted by virtue of John's experience. Michael was now twenty-two years old. One year later he was married to Catharine Newcomer Musser on November 30, 1854. She was a daughter of Christian Musser, who resided near Moore's Mill, Lancaster County.

Michael and his wife resided on the homestead (where he was born) until their son, Eli, was married 1880, when Michael retired to the home across the road. Eli, then farmed the old homestead until his death in 1896. His widow and the children continued to live there until Irwin was married in 1903, and from that time Irwin has been farming the old Musser homestead.

Michael B. Musser was a member of the Brethren in Christ Church and served as deacon from 1875 until his death. His son-in-law, Abram Z. Hess, was ordained to the ministry in the same church in 1894 and his son, Eli, was ordained to the deacon office in the same year. His grandsons, Irwin W. Musser and David M. Nissley, became ministers of the gospel in 1914 and 1915 respectively. David M. Nissley farmed his father's farm for three years after his marriage and then moved to Martinsburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, where they are now living. Martha Musser Stern also resides in Blair County and Hiram M. Wolgemuth has spent

the last few years in California. With these few exceptions, all the descendants of Michael Musser, more than a hundred in number, including those who have married descendants, are living in Lancaster County.

Michael B. Musser was very much interested in the spiritual welfare of his family. He rejoiced in the fact that practically all his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, who had reached the age of accountability, were Christians and members of the same body of believers.

On July 2nd, 1916 he and grandmother entertained almost their entire family in their home, a few distant ones not being present. Forty-six children, grandchildren and great grandchildren met together. The afternoon was spent in devotional services and grandfather desired that the family should tell how they were led to follow Christ. The majority responded and the meeting was one that will long be remembered.

Michael and his wife lived together for sixty-four years, after which she passed to rest at the age of eighty-four years and he six years later at the age of ninety-three years of age. They are buried in the Cross Roads Cemetery.

Jacob H. Musser

Susan B. Musser

Daughter of Ben. E. Musser

Fannie M. Musser

married

Res. Ida Grove, Iowa

Wm. C. McGee

Elmer McGee

Elva McGee

Willie McGee

Elizabeth M. Musser

married

Res. Huron, South Dakota

O. O. I. Ray, Deceased

Henry Ray

Ulysses Ray

Glenn Ray

Martin M. Musser, Deceased 1892

Benjamin M. Musser

married

Grace Musser

married

Benj. Martin Zook

Bernice Pearl Smith

Residence

Martin Lloyd Zook

Morgan Musser Zook

Res. Memphis, Tenn.

Lake Charles, Louisiana

Anna Irene Musser

Mabel Estelle Musser

Morgan Jay Musser

Res. Lake Charles, L.

Susan M. Musser, Deceased

married

No Children

Wm. G. Ross

Jay M. Musser

married

Residence

Abilene, Texas

Estelle Couch

(Martha Musser)

JOHN B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Marriage	Died
John B. Musser.....	9-12-1834	.....	.....	1854	1879
Anna M. Engle.....	1-17-1827	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 Benjamin E. Musser.....	3-21-1856	.....	.....	.....	.....
2 Henry E. Musser.....	2-14-1858	.....	.....	.....	1908
3 Hezekiah E. Musser.....	12-31-1859	.....	.....	.....	.....
4 John E. Musser.....	12-27-1861	.....	.....	.....	.....
5 Jacob E. Musser.....	12-20-1864	.....	.....	.....	.....
6 Mattie Musser.....	2-22-1886	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 Anna Musser.....	8-21-1856	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 Benjamin E. Musser.....	3-21-1856	.....	.....	.....	.....
Emma Knox					
1-1 Homer Musser					
1-2 Arline Musser					
2 Henry E. Musser.....	2-14-1858	18 B. in C.	.....	.....	1908
Mary Hershey					
2-1 Ralph H. Musser.....	.....	16 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
2 Henry E. Musser.....	2-14-1858	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rosa Detweiler, (Second wife)					
2-1 Irene Musser.....	.....	14 Method.	.....	.....	.....
Eunice Musser.....	.....	13 Method.	.....	.....	.....
Melvin Musser		ist			
3 Hezekiah E. Musser.....	12-31-1859	35 M. B. C.	.....	.....	.....
Margie Risser		Richard Musser			
3-1 Lester Musser		Marjary Musser			
Miriam Walter		Helen Musser			
Children—		3-2 Gail Musser			
Vendean Musser		Rex Kimmel			
Donald Musser					
3-3 Earl Musser.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	infa
4 John E. Musser.....	12-27-1861	14 B. in C.	.....	.....	.....
Anna Hershey		Dorothy Dexter			
4-1 Summer Musser		4-3 Noah Musser			
Aritha Ludlow		Vesta Engle			
Children—		Children—			
Harold Musser		Francis Musser			
Alvin Musser		David Musser			
Rhoda Musser		John Musser			
Irene Musser		4-4 Grace Musser			
Earl Musser		James Hobson			
Lillian Musser		4-5 Mary Musser			
4-2 Ruth Musser		Ray Mann			
Howard Dexter		James Mann			
Children—		4-6 John Musser			
Chester Dexter		4-7 Harold Musser			
Claire Dexter		4-8 Grand Musser			

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
5 Jacob E. Musser.....	2-20-1864	30	B. in C.	....	....
Anna Gish	5-3	Karl Musser			
5-1 Mark Musser		Madge Rawley			
Anna Meuli	5-4	Henry Musser			
Leone Musser		Ruth Miller			
5-2 Miriam Musser		Children—			
John Stevens		Loren Musser			
Children—		Bernice Musser			
Genevene Stevens	5-5	Pearl Musser			
Pearl Stevens	5-6	Hazel Musser			
Alvena Stevens	5-7	John Musser			
Lucile Stevens	5-8	Lora Musser			
Jacob Stevens	5-9	Myrtle Musser			
Anna Stevens	5-10	Jay Musser			
Morine Stevens					
6 Mattie Musser.....	2-22-....	24	B. in C.	....	....
David Graybill					
6-1 Flavia Graybill					
6-2 Ruth Graybill.....		16	Method.	....	....
6-3 Frances Graybill.....		12	F. C. C.	....	....
6-4 Mary Graybill.....		10	F. C. C.	....	....
6-5 Lillian Graybill.....		7	Method.	....	....
7 Anna Musser.....	8-21-1879	16	Method.	....	....
E. B. Kendrick					
7-1 Lois Kendrick.....		17	Con. Me.	....	....
7-2 Ralph Kendrick.....		14	Method.	....	....
7-3 Jay Kendrick.....		12	Method.	....	....
7-7 David		10	Method.	....	....
Anna Musser.....				1888	1920
Samuel Shirk.....				1888	....

MARTHA MUSSER

Daughter of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Martha Musser.....	9-29-1836	12 years		1867	1907
Daniel S. Heisey, her husband.	3-14-1836	16 years		1867	1914
1 Benjamin M. Heisey.....	8-26-1868	.....		....	1868
2 Eli M. Heisey.....	9-27-1869	26 years		1891	....
3 Elizabeth M. Heisey.....	6-5-1872	14 years		1904	....
4 Enos M. Heisey.....	1-19-1875	26 years		1898	1927
5 Amanda M. Heisey.....	2-14-1878	14 years		....	....
2 Eli M. Musser.....	9-27-1869	26 years		1891	....
Annie Musser	10- 7-1869	26	Old Ord.	1891	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
2-1 Fannie M. Heisey.....	6-21-1893	.....	.....	.....	1895
2-2 Daniel M. Heisey.....	7- 6-1897	25	Old Ord.	1920	....
Anna Mary Musser.....	3-20-1898	24	Old Ord.	1920	....
Oliver Martin Heisey.....	6- 1-1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-3 Norman M. Heisey.....	2-8-1903	Evang.		1922	....
Dolloros Mae Campbell.....	12-16-1903	B. in C.		1922	....
Clyde Elwood Heisey.....	3- 2-1922	.....		.....	1922
Irene Heisey	12- 1-1923	.....		.....	.....
2-4 Rhoda Mae Heisey.....	6-30-1906	16	Old Ord.	.....	.....
2-5 Elias Musser Heisey.....	6- 9-1912	.....		.....	.....
3 Elizabeth M. Heisey.....	6- 5-1872	14	B. in C.	1904	....
Levi Sheetz	3-16-1883	14	B. in C.	1904	....
3-1 Benjamin Franklin Sheetz..	6- 6-1906	9	B. in C.	.....	.....
3-2 Miriam M. Sheetz.....	2- 2-1909	9	B. in C.	.....	.....
3-3 Elizabeth M. Sheetz.....	8-20-1910	8	B. in C.	.....	.....
3-4 Rhoda M. Sheetz.....	7 5-1912	7	B. in C.	.....	.....
3-5 Levi Paul Sheetz.....	10-28-1913	11	B. in C.	.....	.....
4 Enos M. Heisey.....	1-19-1875	26	B. is C.	1898	1927
Lizzie Kauffman	4-14-1875	26	B. in C.	1898	....
4-1 Barbara K. Heisey.....	1- 6-1903	25		.....	.....
4-2 Martha Irene Heisey.....	2- 2-1906	.....		.....	.....
4-3 Esther K. Heisey.....	2-18-1909	.....		.....	.....
4-4 Daniel Earl Heisey.....	2-18-1912	13	B. in C.	.....	.....
4-5 Ruth Elizabeth Heisey.....	7-25-1915	.....		.....	.....

BENJAMIN B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Benjamin B. Musser	8-28-1838	14 years		1860	1905
Elizabeth S. Lehman, his wife..	10-21-1840	12 years		1860	1926
Children					
1 Leah L. Musser.....	2-12-1861	15 years		1884	....
2 Amos L. Musser.....	12- 9-1862	14 years		1884	....
3 Lizzie L. Musser.....	11-10-1864	12 years		1891	....
4 Joseph L. Musser.....	5-12-1868	12 years		1890	....
5 Annie L. Musser.....	9-10-1870	.....		.....	1870
6 John I. Musser.....	9-20-1874	13 years		1898	....
7 Benjamin L. Musser.....	9-17-1876	12 years		1897	....
8 Emma L. Musser.....	8-22-1883	10 years		1905	....
1 Leah L. Musser Books.....	2-12-1861	15 years		1884	....
Jacob D. Books.....	1-12-1860	18 years		1884	1926
1-1 Lizzie M. Books Basehore..	11-26-1884	21 years		1905	....
Isaac Basehore .....	.....	.....		1905	....
Ira M. Basehore.....	9-25-1907	12 years		1919	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Leah C. Basehore.....	11- 1-1913	11 years	....	....
Alma B. Basehore.....	8- 1-1916	8 years	....	....
Lee B. Basehore.....	6-20-1918	.....	....	....
Roy B. Basehore.....	3-28-1924	.....	....	....
1-2 Minnie Books Light.....	11-22-1885	16 years		1912	....
Harvey K. Light.....	2-15-1886	23 years		1912	....
Myrle B. Light.E.....	3- 1-1914	11 years	....	....
Faith Mae Light.....	3-18-1916	11 years	....	....
Grace B. Light.....	7-25-1917	.....	....	....
Elizabeth B. Light.....	9-11-1918	.....	....	....
Naomi Ruth Light.....	9- 6-1920	.....	....	....
Harvey K. Light, Jr.....	2-15-1886	.....	....	....
1-3 Theron M. Books.....	1- 5-1887	18 years		1908	....
Katie Brant, his wife.....	9-27-1886	14 years	....	....
Ethan B. Books.....	10-31-1911	8 years	....	....
Olive B. Books.....	4- 3-1913	11 years	....	....
Orpha B. Books.....	6-13-1915	10 years	....	....
Theodore B. Books.....	7-21-1917	.....	....	....
1-4 Amanda M. Books.....	1-31-1888	.....		1898	....
1-5 Annie M. Books Sheapler..	8-31-1889	12 years		1914	....
Paul Sheapler	4-28-1890	.....		1914	....
Lloyd B. Sheapler.....	10- 4-1916	.....	....	....
Leah B. Sheapler.....	5-19-1918	.....	....	....
Clair B. Sheapler.....	12- 5-1920	.....	....	....
Therevin B. Sheapler.....	1-14-1926	.....	....	....
1-6 Samuel M. Books.....	3-25-1891	.....	....		1891
1-7 Benjamin M. Books.....	3-31-1892	15 years		1921	....
Priscilla Wingert, his wife...	7-23-1897	9 years		1921	....
Jule Marie Books.....	2-25-1923	.....	....	....
Lola May Books.....	2-27-1926	.....	....	....
1-8 Jacob M. Books.....	4-20-1894	.....	....	....
1-9 Joseph M. Books.....	11-15-1895	.....	....		1906
1-10 Leah M. Books.....	1-31-1897	.....	....		1904
1-11 Elmer M. Books.....	8-18-1898	17 years		1922	....
Carrie A. Light, his wife....	3- 5-1901	13 years		1922	....
Erma Ruth Books.....	3-23-1923	.....	....	....
Curtis A. Books.....	11- 3-1924	.....	....	....
1-12 Esther M. Books Kreider..	12-19-1899	15 years		1921	....
Ethan Kreider	3-22-1900	18 years		1921	....
Marlin B. Kreider.....	11- 7-1922	.....	....	....
Henry Ellis Kreider.....	10-18-1924	.....	....	....
1-13 Titus M. Books.....	9-27-1902	13 years	....	....
1-14 Ruth M. Books Buckwalter	3- 9-1904	11 years		1927	....
Roy Buckwalter	12-10-1900	20 years		1927	....
2 Amos L. Musser.....	12- 9-1862	14 years		1884	....
Katie M. Wenger, his wife..	2-26-1861	10 years		1884	....
2-1 Ezra Benjamin Musser....	11-26-1889	11 years		1914	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Laura Allen, his wife.....	1896	12 years		1914	....
Raymond Ezra Musser.....	1916	.....		....	....
Grace C. Musser.....	1924	.....		....	....
2-2 Bertha E. Musser.....	1-15-1893	.....		1893	....
3 Lizzie L. Musser Heisey....	11-10-1864	12 years		1891	....
Amos H. Heisey.....	11-11-1867	17 years		1891	....
3-1 Florence May H. Bricker..	11- 2-1892	18 years		1921	....
Amos E. Bricker.....	1-14-1892	.....		1921	....
Cora E. Bricker.....	12-11-1921	.....		....	....
Amos A. Bricker.....	8-19-1923	.....		....	....
3-2 Edna Mary Heisey.....	8-17-1896	13 years		....	....
3-3 Emma Irene Heisey.....	7-22-1901	13 years		....	....
3-4 Benjamin Martin Heisey....	8- 8-1904	.....		....	....
3-5 Irvin Winfield Heisey.....	1-11-1909	15 years		....	....
4 Joseph L. Musser.....	5-12-1868	12 years		1890	....
Fannie W. Oberholser.....	11-18-1867	9 years		1890	....
4-1 Irvin O. Musser.....	1-2-1893	18 years		1913	....
Ida May Leshner, his wife....	10-21-1883	22 years		1913	....
Avery J. L. Musser.....	8-25-1914	11 years		....	....
Arthur L. Musser.....	12-27-1921	.....		....	....
4 Joseph L. Musser.....	5-12-1868	12 years		1894	....
Lydia A. Hawbaker, his wife.	1- 7-1869	14 years		1894	....
4-2 Harry W. Musser.....	8- 5-1896	.....		1896	....
4-3 Clarence A. Musser.....	6-23-1897	16 years		1918	....
Nannie C. Gayman, his wife..	12- 5-1896	15 years		1918	....
Paul J. Musser.....	11-24-1918	.....		....	....
Catharine E. Musser.....	12-12-1919	.....		....	....
Ruth N. Musser.....	9-11-1922	.....		....	....
B. Ellen Musser.....	12- 8-1923	.....		....	....
John A. Musser.....	4- 5-1925	.....		....	....
4-4 Ira C. Musser.....	8-29-1899	13 years		1919	....
Mary E. Singer, his wife....	2- 8-1897	21 years		1919	....
Alvin J. Musser.....	10-13-1920	.....		....	....
Martin L. Musser.....	9-10-1922	.....		....	....
J. Melvin Musser.....	11-10-1924	.....		....	....
Lydia Anna Musser.....	5-17-1927	.....		....	....
4-5 Harvey B. Musser.....	11-18-1902	12 years		1925	....
S. R. Anna Hamaker wife....	4- 5-1899	16 years		1925	....
Anna E. Musser.....	10-26-1925	.....		....	....
Benjamin R. Musser.....	10-29-1926	.....		....	....
4-6 Emma C. Musser Wenger..	3-24-1906	13 years		1926	....
David H. Wenger, Jr.....	3-18-1905	10 years		1926	....
4-7 Leah E. Musser.....	4-30-1908	.....		....	....
5 John L. Musser.....	9-20-1874	13 years		1898	....
Annie M. Leshner, his wife...	1-13-1871	22 years		1898	....
5-1 Ada L. Musser.....	11- 7-1899	.....		1900	....
5-2 Walter L. Musser.....	9-24-....	15 years		....	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
5-3 Eber L. Musser.....	4-28-1907	17 years	.....	.....	.....
6 Benjamin L. Musser.....	9-17-1876	14 years	.....	1897	.....
Nannie H. Wingert, his wife.	2-23-1877	9 years	.....	1897	.....
6-1 Mary W. Musser Hess.....	1-22-1901	11 years	.....	1924	.....
Ezra S. Hess.....	2-18-1900	15 years	.....	1924	.....
Ruth E. Hess.....	8- 7-1926	.....	.....	.....	1927
6-2 Elizabeth W. Musser.....	6-26-1904	11 years	.....	.....	.....
6-3 Fannie W. M. Oberholser..	11- 3-1906	9 years	.....	1926	.....
Martin L. Oberholser.....	3- 1-1906	19 years	.....	1926	.....
6-4 Samuel W. Musser.....	3-17-1908	.....	.....	.....	.....
6-5 Rhoda W. Musser.....	6-23-1911	10 years	.....	.....	.....
7 Emma L. Musser Myers.....	12-27-1883	11 years	.....	1905	.....
Jesse W. Myers.....	12-27-1879	27 years	.....	1905	.....
7-1 Alvin M. Myers.....	12-16-1906	12 years	.....	.....	.....
7-2 Benjamin M. Myers.....	1-10-1909	9 years	.....	.....	.....
7-3 Elizabeth M. Myers.....	5-12-1911	12 years	.....	.....	.....

Benjamin B. Musser was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on August 28, 1838. When he was fourteen years of age, the call of God, asking him to yield his heart to Christ, fell heavily upon him. One morning while at public school the burden became so very heavy that he asked the teacher for permission to go home. The teacher asked him why he wanted to leave school, and Benjamin told him he was in trouble about his soul. The teacher, who was also a minister of the Gospel, then told the other pupils that Benjamin Musser was in trouble about his soul and that they would have prayer. They prayed there in the schoolroom and Benjamin as well as others of the pupils prayed and received victory in their souls.

Benjamin remained at home with his parents until 1860 when he married Elizabeth S. Lehman, a daughter of Joseph K. Lehman, of Lancaster County. They started farming on the farm now known as the Hiram Wolgemuth farm. In the spring of 1882 they moved to Franklin County, Pennsylvania with their family. In October of the same year he was ordained as a minister of the Gospel in the Brethren in Christ Church in which capacity he served faithfully until his death. His first text was taken from the third chapter of first Samuel and dealt with the call of Samuel.

He always had the interest of his family at heart and tried to raise them in the fear of the Lord, telling them of the evils about them and their results. He taught them very

plainly of two destinies,—everlasting misery and everlasting happiness. There were no Sunday Schools at the time his family were growing into manhood and womanhood but he would gather them around him and teach them Bible stories and would pray with them often. This influence was much appreciated by the children.

His son-in-law, Jacob D. Books, was also a minister of the Gospel, having been ordained in 1894 and serving faithfully until his death. Harvey K. Light, a son-in-law of Jacob Books, was ordained a minister in 1926 and Benjamin M. Books, a son, took up the same duties in 1923 and is now the pastor of the Brethren in Christ Church in Upland, Calif.

In 1902 Amos L. Musser was ordained to the office of deacon. He and his wife had a definite call of God to engage in mission work in India. In 1902 their call was recognized by the church and they were sent to that field of labor, where they served faithfully for eight years.

In 1908 Joseph L. Musser was ordained to the office of a deacon and a minister. Twelve years later, 1920, Benjamin L. Musser was also ordained a deacon.

HENRY B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Henry B. Musser.....	9-28-1840	12	B. in C.	1862	1909
Anna H. Oberholtzer, 1st wife.	2- 3-1842	15	B. in C.	1862	1895
1 Christian O. Musser.....	11-10-1863	11	B. in C.	1884	....
2 Benjamin O. Musser.....	5-17-1866	9	B. in C.	....	....
3 Amos O. Musser.....	12-28-1869	25	.....	....	....
4 Henry O. Musser.....	2-12-1870	24	B. in C.	1893	....
5 Levi O. Musser.....	1-25-1874	24	B. in C.	1895	....
6 Martin O. Musser.....	12- 1-1878	19	.....	....	1898
1 Christian O. Musser.....	11-10-1863	11	B. in C.	1884	....
Amanda Eisenhower Musser..	12-11-1861	19	B. in C.	1884	....
1-1 Beulah E. Musser.....	6-11-1861	14	B. in C.	....	....
1-2 Florence E. M. Etherington.	1895	.....	.....	1918	....
Ray E. Etherington.....	1894	.....	.....	1918	....
Geo. C. Etherington.....	3-10-1918	.....	.....	....	....
2 Benjamin O. Musser.....	5-17-1866	9	B. in C.	1897	....
Annie Seachrist Musser.....	12- 3-1872	13	B. in C.	1897	....
2-1 Martin S. Musser.....	4-11-1899	16	B. in C.	....	....

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
2-2 Henry W. Musser.....	11-10-1900	.....	.....	.....	.....
2-3 Frances S. Musser.....	4-20-1905	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 Amos O. Musser.....	12-28-1868	25 years		1895	.....
Lydia Sollenberger Musser...	1-25-1874	13 years		1895	1901
3-1 Norman Musser.....	1-26-1897	8 years		1922	.....
3-2 Amos Musser, Jr.....	11-20-1899	9 years		1920	.....
3-3 David Musser.....	10-13-1901	7 years		.....	.....

Second Marriage

Medessa Myers Musser.....	10-15-1874	14 years		1902	.....
3-4 James A. Musser.....	8-23-1905	2 years		.....	1909
3-5 Ruth E. Musser.....	4- 5-1910	7 years		.....	.....
4 Henry O. Musser.....	2-12-1870	24 B. in C.		1893	.....
Annie M. Eshleman Musser..	8- 1-1871	23 B. in C.		1893	.....
4-1 Abram E. Musser.....	6-16-1894	18 B. in C.		.....	.....
Ruth Sherk Musser.....	1-10-1897	18 B. in C.		.....	.....
Annie S. Musser.....	4-19-1918	.....		.....	1926
Henry S. Musser.....	5-28-1920	.....		.....	.....
Betty Jane Musser.....	12-27-1926	.....		.....	1926
4-2 Anna Musser Martin.....	1-19-1898	14 B. in C.		1918	.....
Earl Martin	9-12-1895	16 B. in C.		.....	1918
Musser Martin	4-25-1920	.....		.....	.....
J. Earl Martin.....	2-23-1924	.....		.....	.....
5 Levi O. Musser.....	1-25-1874	24 B. in C.		1895	.....
Fannie Herr Musser.....	8-11-1875	23 B. in C.		1895	.....
5-1 Ralph Herr Musser.....	2- 5-1898	16 B. in C.		.....	1902
5-2 Anna Rhoda Musser.....	12-15-1902	.....		.....	1902
5-3 Paul Herr Musser.....	2-11-1909	12 B. in C.		.....	.....
Henry B. Musser.....	8-28-1840	12 B. in C.		1896	1909
Elizabeth Snyder, 2nd wife..	1843	Yg. B. in C.		1896	1914

HENRY B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

Henry B. Musser was born in 1840 in Lancaster County on the farm that is now known as the Henry Miller farm. As a boy at the age of twelve years old while attending school, he, with others, became under heavy conviction and with the assistance of a praying teacher, yielded his life to his Savior and was saved. He was used in the various activities of the church and had an especial gift of song. He was faithful until death.

At the age of 22 years, 1862, he was married to Annie Heisey Oberholser, daughter of Christian and Veronica Oberholser, near Shippensburg, Penna. They began house-keeping on the farm now owned by his son, Benjamin O. Musser, in the spring of 1863 and this union was blessed with six sons.

Mother Musser passed away in the year of 1895. She was a very devoted Christian.

Father Musser was again married to Elizabeth Snyder of Florin, A. D. 1896. At that time he moved from the home-stead and moved to Florin, Penna., where he lived until death.

Funeral services were held at Cross Roads and he was buried in the adjoining cemetery.

Christian O. Musser was ordained to the office of deacon in 1892 and to the ministry in 1902. Beulah E. Musser, his oldest daughter, entered Home Mission work in Chicago, Illinois, where she served faithfully for fourteen years. Later she responded to a call to foreign work and sailed for Africa in June, 1920, where she is still laboring.

Henry O. Musser was ordained to the ministry in 1902. Levi O. Musser was ordained to the same office in 1907 and to the office of bishop in 1914.

ANNA B. MUSSER KUHNS

Daughter of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Anna B. Musser Kuhns.....	4-24-1845	.....	1864	1921	
John M. Kuhns.....	12- 8-1845	.....	1864	1911	
Their Children					
1 Minnie M. Kuhns.....	5-16-1868	20	B. in C.	1888	....
2 Amos M. Kuhns.....	2-23-1870	18	C. of B.	1888	....
1 Minnie M. Kuhns Shelly.....	5-16-1868	20	B. in C.	1888	....
Harry G. Shelly.....	.....	20	B. in C.	1888	....
1-1 Viola K. Shelly Lehman...	3-28-1891	20	B. in C.	1913	....
Ammon Lehman.....	.....	26	B. in C.	1913	....
Harry S. Lehman					
2 Amos M. Kuhns.....	2-23-1870	18	B. in C.	1888	....
Clara Fackler.....	.....	17	B. in C.	1888	....
2-1 Orpha Kuhns Swope.....	1-11-1896	14	B. in C.	1915	....
John Swope.....	.....	15	B. in C.	1015	....
Thelma K. Swope					

Anna B. Musser Kuhns was born April 24, 1845 on the farm now owned by Elder Irwin Musser, great grandson of Benjamin E. Musser, who was the father of mother Kuhns. At the age of nineteen years and eight months she was married to John M. Kuhns who was born near Rheems, Lancaster County. They began housekeeping on the Kuhns farm, a short distance east of Rheems, along the road now known as the Lancaster Highway. A year later they moved to mother Kuhn's brother, Henry B. Musser, on the farm which is now the Benjamin O. Musser farm, near Mount Joy. During that year a farm was purchased a short distance west of Maytown to which they moved. Here they resided about seven years and were blessed with two children, Minnie born May 16, 1868 and Amos born February 23, 1870. After leaving Maytown, they lived for one year with mother Kuhn's parents at the place later known as Uncle Michael Musser's place.

In 1875 the family moved to Dauphin County, near Hockersville, where the family toiled together about eleven years. In 1878, father Kuhns was elected to the ministry and served in that office for thirty-two years in the Brethren in Christ Church. Amos M. Kuhns was elected to the ministry in the Church of the Brethren in 1904 and has served in that office since that time.

In 1889 father and mother Kuhns moved to Hummelstown to their children, Harry and Minnie Shelly. For some years the parents were engaged in the mercantile business but when this became burdensome, they moved in 1895, with Harry Shelly's to their farm adjoining Union Deposit. They were enjoying their home here until October 24, 1911, when a sad incident occurred. Father Kuhns was entering Hummelstown when a boy, fifteen years of age, who was in a building, foolishly shot through the window with a rifle. The bullet penetrated father Kuhn's body. This took place about 9 A. M., and caused him to pass away at 2 P. M. the same day.

Funeral services were held in two different churches in Union Deposit and the remains were laid to rest in the Union Deposit Cemetery.

Mother Kuhns then became as one of the Shelly family and moved with them to the place which is now known as

Palmdale, which she enjoyed at least nine years. The last months of her life she spent on a chair as a sufferer of dropsy and complications, until November 19, 1921 she peacefully fell asleep. Her home going made a strong impression in line with Scripture according to Philippians 4:7. Funeral services were held in Palmyra at the Brethren in Christ Church, of which she had been a consistent member, and her body was peacefully laid by the side of that of father Kuhns in the Union Deposit Cemetery.

A visit at the lonely spot helps one to breathe the sentiment of the poem:

Father and mother who had great love,
 Their spirits are gone to rest above;
 We feel sad and weep; we sigh and pray,
 So we can meet on that great day.

For when Jesus comes in the air
 We may have a glorious meeting there,
 And joining hands, never to part,
 Forever rejoice with all our heart.

AMOS B. MUSSER

Son of Benjamin E. Musser

	Born	Age	Conv.	Married	Died
Amos B. Musser.....	6-22-1848	18 years		1871	....
Annie W. Engle, his wife.....	1-15-1851	17 years		1871	1917
Children					
Simon E. Musser.....	8-28-1872	.....		....	1880
Uriah E. Musser.....	10- 3-1873	.....		....	1885
Emma E. Musser.....	2- 1-1877	.....		....	1881
Benjamin E. Musser.....	2-24-1879	.....		....	1881
Barbara E. Musser.....	12-29-1882	.....		....	1885
Mabel E. Musser.....	12-25-1886	.....		....	1886
Amos B. Musser.....	6-22-1848	18 years		1918	....
Katie L. Smith, second wife...	10-11-1877	13 years		1918	....

Amos Musser was born more than 79 years ago on the old Musser homestead which is now the Irwin W. Musser farm. In the year 1855 he moved with his parents to the farm which is now the Benjamin O. Musser farm. In 1864 he moved with his parents to a house his father built across the road from the old Musser homestead.

His wife, Annie W. Engle was a daughter of Jacob S. Engle. Of their six children, none reached the age of twelve years. Uriah and Barbara, having died of scarlet fever only two days apart, were buried at the same time. Emma and Benjamin died of diphtheria five days apart.

A. B. Musser and wife began house-keeping on the Kuhn's farm, now the Elmer Strickler farm near the Harrisburg Pike, one mile west of Florin, in the year 1871. During the same year they were both converted and in 1872 were baptized and united with the Brethren in Christ Church. In 1880 A. B. Musser and family moved to a farm near Hockersville where the last of the children passed to rest. In 1887 they sold this farm and built a house in Hummelstown and moved to that place.

In 1888 they were elected and ordained to the office of deacon and deaconess in the Brethren in Christ Church to serve in the Dauphin and Lebanon District.

In 1896 A. B. Musser and four other brethren organized and rented a house for a place of worship in Harrisburg. This house was located on the present site of the Messiah Home and later was used also as a home for old people and children. A year later the same board, by the consent of the church, bought the property. In 1897 A. B. Musser and wife moved to the Messiah Home and during that year the house was rebuilt. A promise to pay for an orphanage building was then made to the same board and, according to the decision of General Conference, the orphanage was built on the Messiah Home lot and paid by Barbara Kern. Later by the same board and with the consent of General Conference, the orphanage was moved to Grantham. In 1925 some of the same board, again with the consent of Conference, moved the orphanage to its present location near the Cross Roads Church, near Florin.

Annie W. Engle Musser lived a consistent member of the Brethren in Christ Church until the time of her death, May 22nd, 1917. She was buried in the Cross Roads Cemetery beside her children.

A. B. Musser was married to Katie L. Smith, November 26th, 1918. Katie L. Smith Musser was converted at the age of thirteen and united with the Zion's Children and at

the age of twenty became a member of the Brethren in Christ Church of which she remained a faithful member.

After the histories had been given according to the program, the forenoon session was closed by prayer offered by Brother Henry O. Musser.

After luncheon and a short season of fellowship, an afternoon session was opened.

DEVOTIONAL

Rev. David M. Nissley

As we look over those who are present on this occasion, it looks as if we had pressed forward with the same aim. In our community, during the month of August, there was hardly a day without reunions or picnics, but none like this. We should be glad for this opportunity of remembering our parents. One thing that I will not forget about my childhood is that grandfather Musser often prayed for his children and grandchildren. One thing we should not forget and that is to follow the Lord.

I was thinking of the descendants of Benjamin E. Musser and the officials in the church who belong to this family. We see that the officials adhere to the customs of their forefathers. What will the next generation bring with it, if we follow the tide of the present age? Let us continue in the old paths. That which is on the outside should accompany that which is within.

I will read a portion of Scripture which you will find in the twenty-seventh Psalm.

May we live close to the Lord that we may be able to hold up the plain old Gospel truths according to the way it is clearly defined to us in the Word and that we may be in that condition that other generations may see it is blessed to be of those whose parents have been worshippers of the true and living God. May we continue this worship in the right spirit and follow our foreparents as they followed the Lord.

Brother David Nissley then led in opening prayer.

ADDRESS

Rev. Amos M. Kuhns

My dear Musser family, brethern and sisters, Brother Graybill and I made a plea to get this off the program but it seems as though we both failed. I did want to read a scripture which came to my mind this morning, but will dismiss that from my discourse, at present. 2000250

I want to say first, if I can gather my mind just hurriedly, I find that some have said on this ground today, "A nice reunion." Over two weeks ago as I was sitting at my desk looking over the paper, I read an article on the number of reunions being held. I said to my companion, "What a number of reunions are taking place at present. I am sure I shall never attend any because there are not many on the Kuhns family side and not many on the Fackler side, my wife's family, but after all a great many on the Musser side." A few days later I received a letter containing the program for this meeting. I wrote Uncle Amos Musser a letter telling him to take my name off the program for this reunion. In his answer he gave me the understanding that it was not to be a reunion but a meeting of the Musser family, so when you go away call it a "Musser Meeting" and not a reunion.

I was impressed with a scripture but should also say that Uncle Amos Musser suggested a scripture that I should read, but will not take time to read that. I am going to read a record of a genealogy in the Bible, which is the fifth chapter of Genesis.

I noticed this forenoon that many of you, at least fifty per cent, were remarkably interested in the genealogy of the Musser family. I want you to especially note that here we have the genealogy of Adam. This covers nearly fifteen centuries. About one hundred twenty years has been covered in the genealogy of the Musser family. I think it is remarkable when we take the genealogy of the fifth chapter of Genesis.

Especially, should we be impressed to know that all these patriots died except one character and they were all several hundred years old when they died. Let me repeat the twenty-fourth verse for a short lesson this afternoon. "And

Enoch walked with God and he was not for God took him." Enoch was a man who did not die as other characters. Neither did Elijah die but he was translated. We have two characters that were translated and their bodies did not see corruption.

Methuselah was the oldest character on record in the Bible, being 969 years old. I do not believe there were any of these characters less than a hundred years old when they passed away. When we think of this genealogy we think it was remarkable but when we think of Enoch this was much more remarkable.

I believe we should be interested in this thought,—the walk in life. It is simply remarkable when we think how people go through life. I know there is a great deal spoken about Enoch walking with God as we walk with each other. If I would take my dear uncle by the arm and walk out here, you would all understand that we walked together, but Enoch and God did not walk together as you and I walk together. So many scriptures speak of walking in the light and not in darkness. Those scriptures describe how Enoch walked with God.

My dear people, be very careful with whom you walk. In this great sinful world, be careful that you are acquainted with whom you walk. Enoch walked with God and I believe that he knew God and so many people today who claim to walk with God have no knowledge of God. Let me say, my dear people, that I feel as a stranger among you but not with God. I believe in having a knowledge of God and becoming new-born creatures in Christ Jesus. We must know God in order to walk with him. We must have the Spirit, as it were, planted in our hearts, and realize the baptism in our soul.

The people of today, as it were, are going after the things of the world. I am glad for the spirit manifested here today. There is danger along the line of reunions. This may be criticised. There is danger of fraudulent things being connected with such gatherings. But let us walk with God and all will be well and then we have somebody on whom we can rely.

Another thing that is implied is companionship. If you and I were to go to the Cross Roads Cemetery, I am sure we could all go to the graves of some who were companions to

us. Companionship is something that we can hardly begin to realize what it is, or what it means. When Enoch was in company with God, it meant close companionship with God. We are glad that there is something in this Holy Bible that tells us if we walk with God, the result shall be as it was with Enoch, God shall take us.

If anyone in divine presence does not know God, I plead with you that you may take God as your companion.

I am sure that between Enoch and God there was an agreement. By that I mean this: Friends cannot meet together if they disagree; there must be an agreement. This Bible sometimes is rejected by people who disagree with the Holy Word of God and yet they claim to walk with God. Unless we agree with every command and with everything that the word of God tells us to do, we cannot walk with God. I am sure that Enoch, as he walked with God, had the Spirit of God within. If we walk with someone, we imbibe the spirit of them. When we walk with God we imbibe the Spirit of God and that is an humble and simple spirit; it is the Holy Spirit, a Spirit that man cannot give. Our hand is in the hand of God and we want to do just what he does.

May God help you, dear young people, that you may be careful with whom you make companionship because of the result. Enoch walked with God and God took him.

Unless you and I endure until the end, we shall be eternally lost, but if we endure until the end, we shall be saved. If we have hold of God, our hand in His hand, He will lead us over the rough place. Let us keep hold of the hand of God. Let us cling tight to him. Let us cling to the spirit which we will gather from text. I am sure Enoch talked with God.

I often think of our family circle. So much was said of our good parents this forenoon and the spirit that pleaded with them. Some of you know what it meant, that which father went through, and I often think of that family altar. I think of the family altar when I see the old chest that I have on the attic. The family altar is something that I fear today is being chilled. Why is it? Simply because folks do not have their hands in the hand of God. May God help us that we may walk and talk with God and then God will take us.

I don't know whether you look at Christendom as I do. It seems that people are getting away from God. Many are giving their hands to the church, but are getting away from God. I trust that the Musser family may keep their hands in the hand of God. I feel that my father walked with God. I feel that my mother walked with God. I feel that God has taken them and I pray that we might be faithful so that when Jesus comes, we shall be ready to go over yonder.

We are getting away from the simple truths of the Gospel. There is danger in this. It does not go in a moment, but gradually. Dear young people, stick close to God. There was a young man who lived quite a distance east of us. He stuck close to his mother, but one day he left and when she died she told those who remained, to tell her boy that she would put a light in the window of heaven for him, just as she had always put a light in her kitchen window for him every evening.

I believe that some are holding out the light in the window of Heaven for us.



ADDRESS

Rev. David L. Graybill

I would like to greet you at this time, recognizing this meeting as the Benjamin E. Musser meeting. I am not afraid of the term "reunion" if we hold it where it ought to be held.

The thread and thought of what I want to talk about is that of character building. When we speak on topics that are to be helpful, we can always find something in the Bible for a foundation. I call your attention to Phillipians 4:8—"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." We are told by some that whenever you find the term "if" it is a challenge. We read of that word very often in the Bible; so as said, what I want to talk about for a little while is that of character and what it means to the individual who will accept that term as it is given to us. I want to say that this is one thing I am sure we are losing sight of. It may not be so applicable to you people.

I look upon this body of frugal people with a feeling that I am not addressing those who will abuse this term. We know what character would be, were it not for virtue back if it. I want to say that character is not reputation and reputation is not character. Character is God ordained. It is something that has been built by God himself and the individual who will subscribe to these truths must know the value of character.

In the first place, "whatsoever things are true;" we all understand that this relates directly with God himself. God is the embodiment of truth. Paul says here, "whatsoever things are true." In order that we may get a foundation then we need to resort to the foundation of truth and that is God.

"Whatsoever things are honest." This again associates itself with truth. Lie is not truth; dishonesty is not honesty. So we can see by using these terms that they have something to do with character and the securing of material with which

to build character. "Ye are God's building." Now in order that you and I may be the proper material to be inserted in that building, we must possess such qualities that there may be no misfit. This is very important in order that you and I may be properly controlled, that our purpose and that the power of it may improve and may help to move us along to build the structure that we are to build.

We all like lovely things. You like things that are beautiful. You like things to look upon that reflect some beauty of God's creation. There is nothing that stands out to you and me with as much grandeur and beauty as a life rounded out by virtue and those things that make for purity. So that we may be able to build the proper structure, we need to confine ourselves to the material that will make it attractive. There is nothing that you can think about in an individual, that is so much appreciated as when you can look into the eyes of the individual, become acquainted with his nature and see he is an honest, true, lovely man and those are the things that make one lovely; so we need to be on the alert and constantly looking for such material that will make this structure attractive.

That character that stands out without any reproach, without any criticism, is that which is to be admired.

"Whatsoever things are pure." These are all the qualities that make up the character in its completeness. It might not need all these; truth might be sufficient and yet after all we see it from only one side. It is that which associates itself with honesty, truth, loveliness and purity and these will help to build that structure of character.

"Whatsoever things are of good report." That possibly takes in all that we have tried to say, which may be useless to go back over. These are the things that will be recognized and circulated. If we pick up and try to build something of a structure, unless it is built with the material that is true, honest, lovely and of good report it will not prove satisfactory.

I am trying to speak of something that will stand when heaven and earth shall pass away and a character that will stand all the things that may come to you in this life. There is nothing so appreciated as the thought of virtue. The Bible often speaks of the virtuous woman. I believe it not only

means the virtuous woman, but also the virtuous man. I believe in the single standard. There is nothing more admired today in the world than when a man meets another that he knows he is meeting a man. These are the things that must be recognized.

What would be the need of having a thing if we would not put it into use so that we may build that kind of a character that counts? He may construct, he may build, he may have a testimony and unless it is completed to that point and carried out to that point of service, what will it avail?

I think of the quality, the ambition, the desire, the motive and the purpose that we all have to develop.

I think of that home across the way where we had been entertained so remarkably at the time of our marriage. We will think of it in terms of the parents of that home. How they fulfill their duties and responsibilities of teaching and living right principles, is shown by the concourse reported here today; and if they were here, they could look upon us and see what their labors have accomplished. I think what they have done is remarkable. Because they have carried out principles of good character they can be looked upon today as an honor to God and to us. If it had not been that they had gone out with a purpose to build and to stand upon principles by reaching out and availing themselves of the responsibilities, we would not be here as we are.

The structure is not complete. We are still building and believe that greater possibilities are still ahead. It depends largely on how this generation and the younger people today will take a stand for truth whether or not this family will be a failure. I am hoping that this generation will take knowledge and will regard the teaching of this very text, looking into it with high ideals and noble aspirations that you may go forth and continue building that, when time on earth is past you may have a building in heaven.

Let us recognize the truth and the thought of service. "He came not to be ministered unto but to minister." So if we are going to continue to progress in the things that maintain for truth and honesty, we must live truthful lives. Think on these things, "If there be any virtue."

IRWIN MUSSER

I had consented to have my name put on this program, but I feel that we have heard sufficient. I appreciate very much that we could have you here with us and as we have heard so many good things, I don't feel that I am here to add anything to what has been said. Only this,—I am sure I wish everybody well and I hope that this coming together may be for God's glory and our mutual benefit.

These different features were interspersed by congregational songs as well as special music and a short recitation by some of the young folks. After appropriate closing remarks by the chairman, Bishop L. O. Musser, the afternoon session was closed by prayer offered by Brother Abram Hess.



